Govt, has opened up following circuits for foreign tourists in the state:—

1. Passighat-Jcngging-Yingkiong
2. Bhalukpung-Bomdila-Tawang
3. Roing-Mayodia-Anini
4. Tezu-Hayuling

The other circuits already opened for foreign tourists and Itanagar-Ziro-along-Pasighat-Miao-Namdapha-Daporijo, Itanagar-Ziro-Along-PasighaMtanagar, Margherita-Miao-Namdapha-Margherita, Tezpur-Sejusa-Bhaiukpong-TIPI-Tezpur.

12 NOON

STATEMENTS BY MINISTERS CORRCTING ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

I. Unstarrcd Question Not. 37 and 1583 Answered on 23rd July, 1997 and 6th August, 1997.

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table of the House two statements (in English and Hindi) correcting the replies given in the Rajya Sabha on the 23.07.1997 to the Unstarred Question No. 37 regarding the IAF aircraft lost in crashes and on 06.08.1997, to the Unstarrcd Question No. 1583 regarding helicopters shot-down/met accidents, respectively. (Placed in Library. *Sec* No. Lt-2357/98)

SHRI H. HANUMANTHAPPA (Karnataka) Sir, these arc corections to statements made in 1997. Afterwards, Parliament had met several times. Why should they take so much time to come out with corrections? What was the Ministry doing all these days? Why should they take such a long time?

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: These question, as I said, figured in this House on 23rd July and 6th August, last year. In April this year, during investiture ceremony, I got to know the actual facts of this case and I sought the information. It took me some time to get that information. As soon as the whole information came to me, I felt that this was information that ought to have been given but had not been given to the House, and I sought the permission of the Chair in September. I had written a letter to the hon. Deputy Chairperson in September. Now, here I am with a clarification.

SHRI H. HANUMANTHAPPA: I agree. I am not questioning the genuineness of the hon. Minister, But my question is, what was the Ministry doing for one year without noticing this mistake?

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: made a point that the reply was given consciously by the Government and that consciously given reply would have remained if, in April, this matter had not come to my notice, I took a policy decision that the information should be shared with the House.

II. Unstarrcd Question No. 4746 Answered on 29th July, 1998.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI OMAK APANG): Sir, I lay on tht Table
a Statement (in English and Hindi) correcting the reply given in the Rajya Sabha on the 29th July, 1998 to the Unstarred Question 4746 regarding shortfall of foreign tourists after nuclear tests. (Placed in Library. *See* No. LT-2358/98)

III. Unstarred Question No. 2010 Answered on 16th December, 1998.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI OMAK APANG): Sir, I lay on the Table a Statement (in English and Hindi) correcting the reply given in the Rajya Sabha on the 16th December , 1998 to the Unstarred Question .2010 regarding observance of 1999 as "Visit India year." [Placed in Library. *See* No. LT. 2359/ 98] .